

REMARKS

Within the Office Action Claims 40, 41, and 45 have been allowed, while Claims 19-29 and 37-39 have been rejected. Claims 19, 20, 38 and 39 have been amended to recite the invention with greater clarity. Claims 24, 25, 29 and 37 have been canceled. Therefore, Claims 19-23, 26-28 and 38-39 are submitted for reconsideration.

Claims 19-24, 26, 27, 29 and 38 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Bertin et al (6,141,245, hereinafter "Bertin"). In Figure 6(a)(3) Bertin discloses an "N-well" which is a diffused region commonly used in the fabrication of diodes and transistors. Reference 148 is disclosed in reference to Figure 6(a)(2) as "conductive line 148 connecting the fuse with the N-well/P-well regions" and is depicted in Figure 6(a)(3) as a conductive trace. The N-well shown in Figure 6(a)(3) is not a fillable well as disclosed by Applicant. The material of conductive line 148 is a conductor, but does not have any bonding properties. To distinguish from Bertin, Claims 19 and 38 have been amended to "conductive bonding material". The bonding capability is taught by Applicant and is essential to his method. Solder and conductive epoxy are examples of conductive bonding materials.


Claims 20-29 depend from Claim 19 and are patentable for the same reasons as Claim 19 and by reason of the additional limitations called for therein.

Claim 39 depends from Claim 38 and is patentable for the same reasons as Claim 38 and by reason of the additional limitations called for therein.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the claims of record are allowable and that the application should be passed to issue.

Should the Examiner believe that the application is not in a condition for allowance and that a telephone interview would help further prosecution of this case, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the phone number below.

Respectfully submitted,


Maria S. Swiatek, Esq., Reg. No. 37,244
for Edward N. Bachand, Reg. No. 37,085

Customer No. 32,940
DORSEY & WHITNEY LLP
555 California Avenue, Suite 1000
San Francisco, CA 94104-1513
Telephone: (650) 494-8700

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